

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Observing Brotherhood Week

"Men of all Creeds and Races Are Bound Together in One Common Fate," Says President Truman in Strong Statement Against Hate and Prejudice

THE American people are observing National Brotherhood Week February 20 to 27. In schools, churches, and civic organizations the problem of unity is being discussed. President Truman stresses the importance of the occasion, which is sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, in these words:

"We approach another Brotherhood Week at a time when none can doubt the urgency of its reminder that men of all creeds and races are bound together in one common fate.

"This association in a common destiny means that the real problems of the world are those of human relations. In this age when science has tapped the atom's nucleus, man must tap the nucleus of understanding without which there is no wisdom, no spirit for righteous action, and no mutual concern.

"Brotherhood is the solution. It is the source of the unity within our nation which will make us powerful in example and strong in moral purpose so that we may give to our world the leadership worthy of our heritage. Moreover, our future as a nation can be bright with immeasurable achievement as we extend liberty within our borders and lead mankind to a united world without ancient hates and enlightened by the recognition that all mankind is one family.

"Brotherhood Week is the occasion for rededication of the American people to these high spiritual objectives. I hope that all institutions of education, religion, civic betterment and the media of communications will engage in community activity to make brotherhood a living reality."

Many other American leaders will speak out for tolerance, racial friendship, and national unity during Brotherhood Week. Few of these appeals, however, will match the force and eloquence of one made some time ago by Eric Johnston, former head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and now president of the Motion Picture Association of America. He said:

"Race hatreds and group intolerance simply do not jibe with any of the formulas of freedom so dear to the American heart. To the extent they are allowed to flourish, they threaten to change the American Dream into another European nightmare.

"The one thing that needs emphasizing, day in and day out, is that the spread of intolerance is not primarily a danger to the intended victims but to the whole country. Once the poison enters a nation's bloodstream, the entire population is doomed.

"The inevitable cycle of organized intolerance is that it destroys the individual, the family, the community, then the state. The fight against it is not merely our duty as decent human beings. It is the indispensable condition of our survival as free individuals and as a prosperous nation.

"The ideal human relationship is

that of cooperation rather than conflict. In the name of Heaven, and for the earthly value of security and national progress, let us not begin destroying one another in this America, 'the last best hope of earth.'"

It is especially important that, here in America, we should give thoughtful attention to this subject, for our country is made up of many races, nationalities, and religions. We shall remain unified and strong only so long as these groups live and work harmoniously together in an atmosphere which provides justice, fair play, and good will for all people.

On the whole the various divisions of the American population have cooperated quite well; so well that this nation has long been the envy and hope of oppressed peoples in every corner of the globe. But it is never an

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Norway and the Western World

Nation May Join North Atlantic Pact in Spite of Strong Russian Opposition

"COURAGE" is the one word used most often in discussions of Norway. During World War II, the Norwegian people displayed this quality while they were under Nazi domination. Since the war, they have shown it in the way they have worked at the tremendous task of rebuilding their nation. And in recent weeks, these northern people have again displayed their courage as they have discussed plans to join the North Atlantic military alliance.

Norway has not yet joined the alliance—and she may not do so. Nevertheless, the country is making a serious study of the pact—and she has taken a firm stand in favor of increasing cooperation with the West in spite of strong opposition from Soviet Russia.

Twice during the past month Russian leaders have used both veiled threats and offers of "peace protection" to swing Norway away from the West. But the smaller country has let it be known that she will not be frightened into allying herself with Russia. The tone used in the answer to the Soviet government indicates a desire to get along with all nations—but it shows that Norway is determined to make her own decisions in military matters, as well as in other fields.

Perhaps no other country in Europe is facing the possibility of a war between East and West as realistically as is Norway. Like all people of the

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Nailing Your Attention Down

By Walter E. Myer

WHAT is the most interesting piece of equipment or furniture in your homeroom or classroom? Is it perhaps a well devised map or chart? Is it the blackboard, with informative figures, clippings, or diagrams; is it a motion-picture projector or some mechanism from the science laboratory? Or does each member of the group find most interesting the book which lies open on his desk?

All these items may have their attractions, but there is a competitor which holds a share, perhaps an undue share, of student attention—an ordinary, simple contraption with no claim to novelty, a common enough bit of equipment which each one learned to use in childhood. It is none other than the classroom clock.

The "clock watcher" is to be found in every class, in every factory, every place where work is done or where it is supposed to be done. He attends for a while to his lesson or his job, then he

turns to the clock and watches the hands go round. He makes a mental note to see whether it will be thirty, twenty, ten or five minutes until it is time to move, time for a rest period, or time for work to end. In doing this, he withdraws attention from his lesson or his job.

This is a serious matter, for attention at best tends to flit from one subject to another. Yet it must be nailed down to specific problems if one is to accomplish anything. When a person glances too often at the clock, when he is too anxious for the end of his task to come, he loses his hold on the work he is trying to do.

When you sit down to read a lesson your first job is to concentrate, to push everything else from your mind. It may take a few minutes for you to get into the mood for study. It takes will power to stay in that mood and to go on with your reading and thinking.

If, after you begin really to concentrate and get things done, you

look up from your book and begin to count the minutes until you can get away, you lose all you had gained by your efforts. If the

habit of clock watching gets a strong hold on you, you may become a dawdler, a scatterbrain, incapable of hard work.

The superior student, the highly skilled workman, the successful executive has the power to lose himself in the job he is doing. He enjoys recreation as well as anyone. He places a high value upon his leisure time, but he can tell the difference between play time and work time and he knows that the two can't be mixed together; that if he tries to mix them, play and inattention will come out on top and at quitting time the day's work will still be undone. So he forgets the clock and sticks to his knitting until the bell rings, the whistle blows, or his work is done.



Walter E. Myer

Norway's Role

(Concluded from page 1)

world, the Norwegians hope that armed conflict can be avoided. They are not, however, content to rest upon that hope. Should war come, they do not want to be taken by surprise, and they want to be able to defend themselves as much as possible.

In working toward this end, the Norwegians have increased their defense budget, they have given almost every man in the country a brief period of military training, and now they are considering a military alliance with the West.

Norway's swing toward the West is in part a natural result of the country's long democratic tradition. Although the nation is a monarchy, the real governing power is in the hands of a popularly elected parliament. The people are intensely democratic in their daily lives and they are bitterly opposed to the doctrines and methods used by totalitarian governments. Consequently, the Norwegians are more sympathetic to the countries of the West than they are to the dictatorial states of the East.

A second reason for Norway's swing to the West lies in the fact that the country has decided that present-day conditions make it impossible for a small nation to maintain a position of neutrality. Before World War II,



NORWAY and Russia have a common boundary in the north

Norway and the other Scandinavian countries had been able to remain aloof from Europe's armed conflicts.

During the last war, though, Norway's geographic location and her long coastline made her an important asset—one which the Germans greatly needed and one which the Allies wanted. In a surprise attack Germany conquered the country and occupied it until the war's end. Norway believes that the same situation would arise in case of another conflict—and she wants to be able "to choose her own side" before the fighting begins.

A third reason for Norway's increasing interest in an alliance with the West comes because of Russia's actions in Eastern Europe. The Norwegians have seen state after state cooperate with Russia, then sign a non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union, and finally fall completely under Communist control. They do not want this to happen to their country.

Military defense is only one of the many problems that face the Norwegian people. World War II left the country in an extremely weak position. Almost half its merchant ships—vessels that before the war carried a large part of the world's trade—had been sunk. Homes and factories in some parts of the nation were wrecked.

When peace came, the Norwegians



HALVARD LANGE (right), Norway's Foreign Minister, met with U. S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson recently to discuss problems of defense

approached these problems in much the same way as they are going about finding a solution of the military question today. They faced the issue squarely and set to work to remedy it. On the one hand they knew that their country must, even in normal times, buy food and many industrial products from other lands. They also knew that they could pay for these goods only by exporting large quantities of fish and lumber products, and by carrying goods for other nations in their merchant vessels.

To step up the production of goods for export, the Norwegian government established what has been called a "do without" program. The production of consumers' items—clothing, food, furniture, and the like—was strictly limited. All the money available and all the goods that could be made were to be used for rebuilding foreign trade and the basic industries.

This program has been in effect for about three years—and its results are beginning to be seen. The whaling and fishing fleets have been rebuilt and there has been a corresponding increase in the exports of fish. The merchant fleet is being reconstructed and will be back to prewar size by the end of this year. New plants have been built for making aluminum, pig iron, and chemical products—and new hydro-electric developments have been put into operation.

In spite of this progress, the Norwegian people must still "do without" for some time to come. Last year the country spent 300 million dollars more for purchasing foreign products than it took in from sales to other countries. Housing is still short, and few people can obtain new clothing. Fresh meat and eggs are almost never seen in the markets. Fortunately, the Norwegians have plenty of fish for a healthful diet.

For a number of years Norway has maintained a balance between capitalism and socialism. Most of the nation's industries are privately owned, although a few—the railways, telegraph and telephone companies, and others—are wholly or partly owned by the state. The Labor Party which is now in power stands for increased socialization, but its program is opposed by many Norwegians. Post war conditions have made rather far-reaching government regulations necessary, but how far Norway will push socialism remains to be seen.

Norway is one of the countries that have been taking part in the Marshall

Plan. By the end of March, it will have received about 82 million dollars under the plan—and most of this amount will have been used for industrial equipment such as bulldozers, tractors, fuel oil, generators, turbines, and metal-working machinery.

Norway's leaders are quick to admit the benefits their nation has received from this aid program. The Minister of Finance, in presenting his budget to the Norwegian parliament recently, said that without the Marshall Plan the country's position today "would have been much different from what it is now. There would have been less food and clothing; there would have been still less feed, fertilizer, raw materials for industry, and machines and investment goods. Large segments of the population would have been faced with unemployment and continuing poverty. . . ."

Even in normal times, Norway's 3 million people must work hard to make a living. Their country, which is about the size of New Mexico, is mountainous and about 70 per cent of the land is uninhabitable. Only 5 per cent is suitable for farming. Fortunately, mild winds from the

ocean keep the country from being too cold in the winter, and they give it a mild summer climate.

The fiords—"long arms of the sea"—are perhaps Norway's most distinctive geographic feature. They are caused by the high mountains that rise abruptly from the sea, and are really long valleys filled with water. Many of the country's villages are located on these fiords, and the waters furnish fine harbors for fishing fleets. During World War II, they were used for submarine bases by the Germans.

While Norway is not a rich country, its resources have been wisely used. The people have turned to the near-by sea for the fish upon which they depend so heavily. The mountains limit the space available for farming, but they provide timber that is used for another important industry. Although the country lacks coal, it has harnessed its many swift rivers to provide hydro-electric power for factories. And the nation's minerals—iron, aluminum, nickel, and copper—are the basis of numerous industrial developments.

Spitsbergen, a large island 400 miles north of Norway, is the country's chief overseas possession. The island was given to Norway after World War I, and it is important for two reasons. First, it has large deposits of coal that Norway needs; second, it is strategically located in the Arctic Circle.

Observers generally agree that Russia's interest in Norway's military plans comes in part from the country's ownership of Spitsbergen. The island holds a commanding position on air routes that cross the polar region from Asia to North America. It could be an important base in a future war.

Russian—and Western—interest in Norway's military plans also stems from the fact that the country's long coastline provides excellent harbors for submarines. Soviet leaders would like to have access to these harbors—while the Western powers would like to keep them free from such use.

Norway is seriously considering how she can best protect herself in the future. If she does not join the North Atlantic Pact, she may work with Denmark and Sweden to form a Scandinavian defense alliance.



RUSSIA has not been able to frighten Norway by cracking the whip over her head



THIRTY-FOUR FOREIGN STUDENTS from Marshall Plan countries met with President Truman on a recent trip to Washington, D. C.

HARRIS & EWING

Teen-Aged Foreign "Ambassadors" Tour U. S.

Express Gratitude for ERP Aid, Give Views on Life in This Country

NOW staying in and near New York City as guests of New York high school students are 34 young visitors from foreign nations—a boy and a girl from each overseas land that is taking part in the European Recovery Program. These travelers, most of them teen-aged, came to America at the beginning of this year. They are to stay until next month, when they will take part in a forum sponsored by the *New York Herald Tribune*. The young people earned their trips by writing prize-winning essays in English on "The Kind of World I Want."

Recently they made a two weeks' airplane tour of the United States. Two New York students, Helen ("Brooklyn") Ginandes and Richard Leather, accompanied them. The entire group spent four days in Washington, D. C., as guests of the *Washington Post* and *THE AMERICAN OBSERVER*.

Wherever the visitors go, of course, they are a center of interest. They have been kept busy answering questions about their own countries, expressing opinions on the European Recovery Program, and describing their impressions of the United States.

Here are some of their significant comments about the Marshall Plan:

Anthony Demetriadis, Greece: "I do not believe that the Marshall Plan can be interpreted as a way for the United States to take over Greece, as the Communists would have us believe. Greece has been suffering a long time—is one of the poorest nations in the world. The war brought more destruction and misery. The Marshall Plan has been of great help in rebuilding roads, bridges, and harbors. The idea that a strong nation will step in and help find the way to peace and security in Europe is of great moral help in itself."

John Williams, Great Britain: "The Marshall Plan has helped England most with food and machinery—to re-equip industries which were badly damaged by the war, and a lack of

renewal equipment. Without the Marshall Plan, the ration of many essential items would have been lessened by at least a third."

Jean Claude Salle, France: "The Marshall Plan has done France a great deal of good, not only from the economic point of view, but also the political. It helps us to fight communism, and it gives us a definite goal toward which to work."

The foreign visitors have expressed a number of interesting views on the people of America. Naturally, though, they disagree on many points. Printed below are some of their remarks:

Rosemary Nugent, Eire: "We've been deeply impressed by the great kindness and warmth of the people of America and by the great development of this country."

Esbjorn Esbjornsen, Sweden: "I like the close relationship between parents and children in America. It is more friendly than in Europe—more like that of friends than of parents and children."

Zoe Dragoumis, Greece: "American boys and girls grow up much too quickly. They date, drive cars, and the girls paint at a very early age."

Ferdinanda Popper, Austria: "American youth grows up quickly in a way, but in another respect they are very immature. They are too carefree. All they have on their minds is a little school, a few dates, nice clothes. Their interests in general do not go as deep as those of foreign students."

A few days later, Miss Popper expressed a somewhat more favorable opinion: "I was amazed at the friendliness between teachers and students. There is respect, too; but in Austria we must stand at attention whenever we speak with a teacher, and the discipline is much stronger. I like the choice of subjects here. We have none, but must take fourteen prescribed courses each year. We work harder, and have no time for outside activities. It is true, perhaps, that we learn

more; but we are not so well trained socially."

Esbjorn Esbjornsen, Sweden: "My first impression of American students was that they cared only for dates, dances, movies, and so forth. Then I was invited to a formal discussion group at one of the homes, where the young people discussed various questions on public affairs. I realized then that there was a lot more depth to them than could be seen under the camouflage of lipstick and bright neckties."

Rosemary Nugent, Eire: "What strikes me most is the almost unlimited amount of opportunity there is for youth in America. It's not the country's fault if they fail to get on. It is so easy to get a high school and even a college education here. At home everybody doesn't have the chance."

Lena Kihlman, Sweden: "I am amazed at how you people waste food. You have so much that you don't seem to care."

Marco Bacciagaluppi, Italy: "I have never before tasted such strange concoctions as in the United States."

George Albrechtskirchinger, Germany: "I am so overwhelmed with the amount and quality of the food here that I don't complain. I just keep on eating!"

Zoe Dragoumis, Greece: "I was once told that it is usual for a man in America to put on a new shirt, wear it until it becomes soiled, then throw it away. That doesn't really happen, does it?" (She was assured that it does not.)

The foreign students and the two from New York who accompanied them on their tour of the nation have formed a permanent club. They will correspond with one another regularly in an effort to promote international understanding. The fact that they, students of 18 nationalities, "have been able to live together so happily without the slightest quarrel" has convinced

them that lasting peace can be achieved if the peoples of the world become better acquainted.

In Washington, D. C., the visitors met President Truman. They were hushed and excited while waiting outside his White House office. Then, as they were filing into the famous oval room where his desk is located, one could hear whispered, over and over again, "Do you see him yet?"

The President shook hands with each member of the group. It was difficult for an onlooker to decide who enjoyed this White House visit most—the students or Mr. Truman. He joked with them, showed them some of the papers and souvenirs on his desk, and made a brief talk about the American form of government.

"I am glad you are now in the capital," he said. "I hope you will spend some time here and get a chance . . . to see how the government of the United States operates. It is not posed as the most efficient government in the world, but it is posed as one that is most just to the people."

Anthony Demetriadis, of Greece, replied to the President in these words: "We came here, 34 students from various foreign countries, without having the privilege of meeting each other before, and without knowing what we would find. We are already five weeks here, and we have had a chance to go all over the country to see what it looks like, and we have had a chance to meet the American people and to see how they think and how they work."

"Now, no one of us likes to flatter, but I can say that we have had a great time in a great country with a great people. We have had the most wonderful time of our lives here, and we only wish that American students could come over to our countries."

"We came here to see what our views would be, and we are very satisfied. I would like to say just one word, President Truman: Thank you!"

The Story of the Week



FORMER PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER (right), as he explained his reorganization plan for the federal government to Senator John L. McClellan of Arkansas

Boys' Towns of Italy

Large numbers of homeless Italian boys are learning to lead a useful life and are getting a practical, working knowledge of democracy in a series of "Boys' Towns" which are being set up throughout Italy. The project is being sponsored by American Relief for Italy, an organization which has sent food and clothing to some 12 million people in that war-devastated land in the past five years. The Italian people are contributing land, labor, and materials to match the funds raised in the United States.

Seven boys' towns are now completed, and others are planned. Homeless boys from all over Italy ask to be admitted. In these special communities, the boys attend school and learn skills that will enable them to make a living. They elect their own officials, and run their own government on democratic lines. Forty miles north of Rome, five towns have been joined in a "boys' republic." So prized is the privilege of belonging to the project that only one boy has ever left the "republic"—and he came back.

One of Italy's communities for boys was built largely from gifts of clothing workers in New York City, and is called the New York Boys' Town. Groups in other American cities are adopting the idea, and recently a drive got under way in Chicago to raise funds for a Chicago Boys' Town in far-off Italy.

Newsprint Output

The country's paper manufacturers are turning out more newsprint for use by American newspapers than ever before. During 1948, the production of newsprint was the highest in our nation's history—about 900,000 tons—but it is expected to be even higher in 1949.

This additional supply of paper for the American press is encouraging to our publishers for they would like to increase the number and size of the newspapers they print. There has been a great demand for newspapers since the early days of the war, when the public developed a wide interest in the news of the world.

While a good proportion of our newsprint comes from American manufacturers, the greatest part con-

tinues to be shipped to us from Canada. Last year alone, Canadian manufacturers sold to American publishers more than 3 million tons of newsprint. This is slightly more than three times the quantity produced in the United States.

Atomic Defense Force

The recent disclosure by the Atomic Energy Commission that some of its security forces engaged in maneuvers last summer with the Army and the Air Force has called attention to the little-publicized group which protects our atomic energy installations.

Of the 6,000 members of these security forces, about 2,000 are stationed at three of the nation's largest atomic plants which are located at Hanford, Washington; Los Alamos, New Mexico; and Oak Ridge, Tennessee. They are armed with machine guns, pistols, and carbines, and have armored cars. All are expert marksmen, and many were members of the Commandos or Rangers during the war. They have distinctive uniforms, which vary from one area to another.

Besides enforcing routine security regulations, these men are expected to

play a vital role in the event of any attack by an outside power. It will be their job to hold the installations until the Army can relieve them. In modern warfare, where surprise attacks by paratroopers are commonplace, the necessity for such a special defense force is obvious. The head of the A.E.C. security detachment is Rear Admiral John Gingrich, who is "on loan" from the Navy.

British Workers

The first of some 500 British workers are now arriving in the United States to learn the various manufacturing methods used by American industry. They are coming here under an agreement made recently between the British government and officials of our Economic Cooperation Administration.

While they remain in the United States, the visitors from Britain will observe the way in which American workers handle their jobs and use various tools and machines. They will spend six to eight weeks here and some will live with the families of American wage earners.

Great Britain asked to send a group of workers to the United States because it wished to improve its manufacturing methods and increase production. American industry and workers are considered the most efficient in the world.

Communist "Trials"

The case of Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty of Hungary has attracted attention throughout the world. Cardinal Mindszenty, head of the Catholic Church in Hungary, was sentenced to life imprisonment some days ago by a high court in that country. The court held that he was guilty of trying to overthrow the Communist government and of black-marketing.

The arrest of Cardinal Mindszenty occurred after he had become the most outspoken public foe of communism in Hungary. Anticipating that the Communist government might imprison him, he wrote a letter last November,

indicating that if he were arrested and subsequently confessed to guilt, his confession would have been induced by force.

The letter was widely recalled when, in his recent trial, Cardinal Mindszenty stated that he was "guilty . . . of most of the accusations." His supporters in many lands assert that the Hungarian government "trumped-up" the charges to eliminate the Cardinal as an opponent of communism.

President Truman called the trial an "infamous" blot on Hungary's history. Secretary of State Dean Acheson strongly denounced the action of the Hungarian government. The trial has placed a severe strain on diplomatic relations between Hungary and the United States. Whether or not it will result in a complete break remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, 15 Protestant ministers are being held in Bulgaria on the same kind of charges made against Cardinal Mindszenty. The Communist government of Bulgaria says that the ministers have been acting as spies for the U.S.A. and Great Britain. Their arrest is bringing protests from many people who charge that the ministers were seized simply because they opposed communism.

Government Reorganization

Congress now has several reports of the Hoover Commission, which for the past 1½ years has been studying the workings of the executive branch of our government. A total of 15 reports are to be submitted to Congress, the remainder of them within the next few weeks. All of them will point the way to reforms in our government.

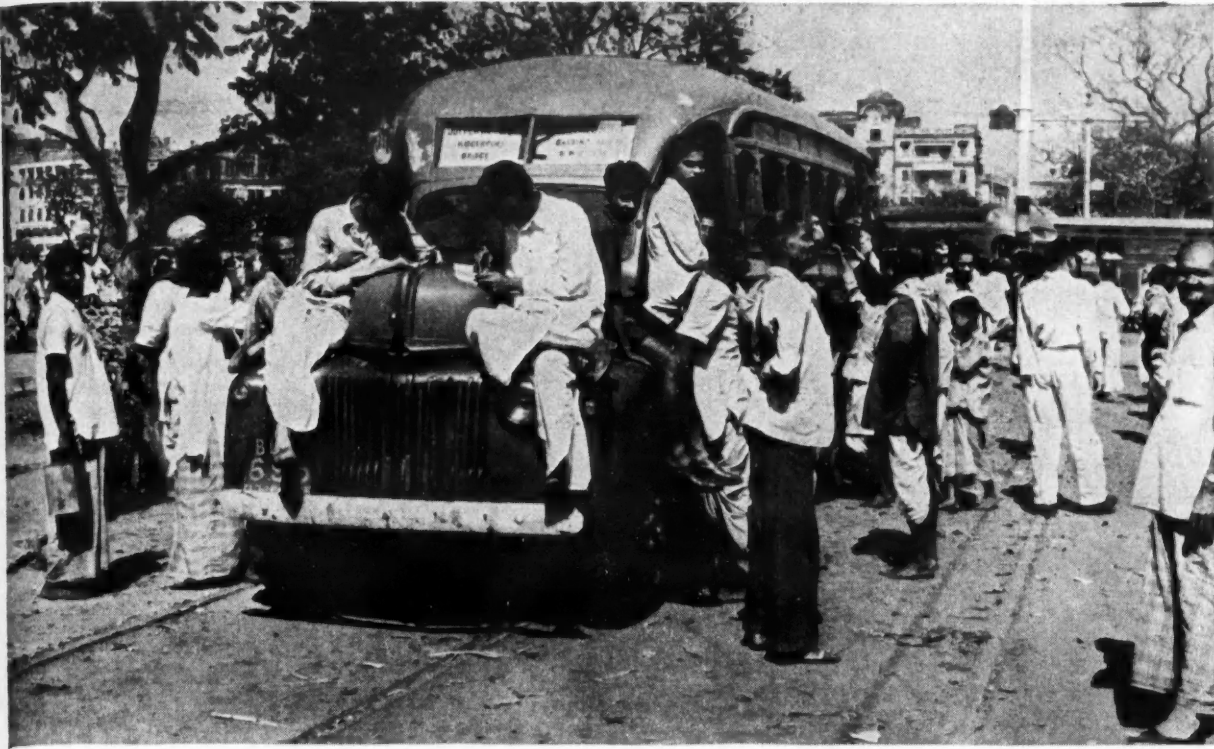
In the first report, the Hoover Commission recommended that the executive branch of our government undergo a streamlining. Pointing out that the President now has 65 separate departments, agencies, boards, and other groups directly under his control, the Commission urged that this number be reduced by about two-thirds. Such a step is necessary, the Hoover group said, to relieve the President of many



"DOES STALIN want to talk peace or is he trying to kill time?"



CONSUMERS are encouraged by the recent price declines



CROWDED BUS in Calcutta. India finds it hard to provide sufficient transportation for its large population.

time-consuming, administrative duties.

Headed by former President Herbert Hoover, the Commission went to work on its intensive study in July, 1947. Its findings are sure to be the subject of much consideration in Congress.

France's Trade Troubles

In a recent article in *This Week Magazine*, Theodore White, chief of the Paris bureau for Overseas News Agency, discusses one of the most serious matters facing France today—the problem of restoring her world trade.

Mr. White points out that before the war France had a good trading position. Her overseas possessions made a steady market for many of her products. She received an excellent income from the sale of such high-priced luxury items as silks and perfumes to other nations. France's large sales made her able to pay for the key raw materials—petroleum, coal, cotton, fats, and so on—needed by her industries.

Today the picture is far different. Indo-China is in rebellion, and the French empire is proving generally to be a financial drain rather than a source of income. Great Britain and many other nations which once bought large amounts of French luxury items can no longer afford them. Consequently France's sales abroad have dropped to low levels and amount to only about half of her foreign purchases.

The problem of competing with other countries in world markets is made even worse by the fact that many French industries have become "run-down" and are no longer efficient. For example, it takes 85 man-days of labor to make an automobile in France as compared with 25 in America. While an American, with the aid of machinery, digs five tons of coal a day, a French miner digs but one.

Mr. White thinks that the solution is for France to put billions of dollars into new factories, but to do so will require the courage and self discipline to put an "austerity program"

into effect. Under such a program the French would not only be deprived of many comforts but they would also have to reform the tax system.

Steps are now being made in that direction, but—in Mr. White's opinion—further drastic moves will have to be taken. If they are not, the followers of de Gaulle, on the one hand, or the Communists, on the other, may succeed in coming into power.

Strife in Greece

The Greek civil war drags on with the rebel forces still putting up resistance in the mountains of northern Greece. However, the recent shake-up in the high command of the Communist-led rebels indicates that they are making little if any, headway against the Greek government, which is backed by the United States. General Markos, the rebel leader, has been relieved from his command and has been replaced by John Ioannides, a veteran Communist revolutionary.

Recent rebel radio broadcasts indicate that the Communist-led forces are now trying to attract more recruits, and will attempt to increase their pressure against Greek government troops. They also say that they hope to make a Greek Communist state a reality this year.

Regional Groups

The right of countries to band together in regional defensive groups was specifically granted in the United Nations Charter. Now—more than three years after the establishment of the UN—most of the major countries of the world are members of one or another regional "bloc." Here are the principal groups now in operation:

1) *The American States.* In 1947 the United States and 20 Latin American countries signed a pact at Rio de Janeiro. The signers agreed to come to the help of any one of them which was attacked, providing it was agreed by two-thirds of the nations.

2) *The Council of Europe.* In 1948 Great Britain, France, Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxemburg signed a de-

fense treaty at Brussels. This group recently adopted its present name, and its members are playing a leading role in drawing up the North Atlantic Alliance, which may include Canada, the United States, and certain other nations.

3) *The Arab League.* Seven nations of the Middle East banded together in 1945 to increase Arab power in world affairs. They are Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Trans-Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen.

4) *The Russian Bloc.* Since the end of the war, the Soviet Union has made defense treaties with Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, and Yugoslavia. While Yugoslavia's relations with the Soviet Union have not been close in recent months, Yugoslavia is still presumably a member of the group. Finland is sometimes considered a member of the Russian bloc, but is not as

closely allied with the U.S.S.R. as are most of the other countries mentioned.

5) *The South Pacific Group.* Australia and New Zealand have a close defense relationship, dating back to 1944. In recent weeks there has been talk of expanding this organization with the eventual object, perhaps, of forming a "Pacific group," modeled on the North Atlantic Alliance.

Badminton Tournament

Today—February 21—in Glasgow, Scotland, play will begin in the first world championship badminton tournament. Teams from 10 countries will compete. While most of the participants represent European nations, teams from Malaya, India, and the United States are also going to take part. To the winning group will go a trophy given by Sir George Thomas, a former champion of England.

Badminton developed in England about 80 years ago from the children's game of shuttlecock in which two players with paddles batted a feathered cork back and forth. It is said that on one rainy day at a house party on a large English estate, someone amused the children by stretching across the hall a rope over which the cork had to be hit. The new game caught on immediately. Since the country home where it was first played was known as Badminton, the sport came to be called by that name.

America's best badminton player is Dave Freeman, a 28-year-old San Diego doctor. Freeman, who is taking part in the Glasgow tournament, has not lost a singles match since 1939. In the past 10 years he has won more than 300 consecutive tournaments. Before taking up badminton, he was the U. S. national junior tennis champion.

During the war, international badminton play was curbed, and Freeman consequently has never had the chance to meet some of the top-flight players in other countries. Americans will thus be especially interested to see if he can extend his long string of victories in this week's international matches at Glasgow.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Private Jones had had twenty shots at the rifle range, and all had missed the target.

"What are you doing?" yelled the sergeant. "What's the explanation of this disgraceful performance?"

"I don't know," replied Jones. "They're leaving this end all right."

★ ★ ★

A tourist stopped in front of a little store, dumbfounded at the sight of an enormous display of salt. Stack after



"I don't know the title, but it has a red cover and my allowance is between pages 30 and 31."

stack, boxes, barrels, and bags—tons of salt inside the store and out.

"Man, you must sell a lot of salt," exclaimed the tourist.

"No, I don't sell much," replied the storekeeper, "but you should have seen the man that came here last week. He really could sell salt."

★ ★ ★

"A senator is supposed to be familiar with all public questions, isn't he?" asked a critic.

"Yes," replied the senator, "but not necessarily the answers."

★ ★ ★

His car and her car met head on. Both drivers got out and, with that fine courtesy so characteristic of motorists nowadays, both began to apologize profusely.

"I'm so sorry," said the woman. "It was all my fault."

"Not at all, madam," the man responded with gallantry. "I was to blame myself."

"But I insist the fault was mine. I was on your side of the road."

"That may be true, my dear madam, but I saw you coming blocks away, and I had ample opportunity to dart down a side street."

Brotherhood Week Is Observed in United States

(Concluded from page 1)

easy matter for people to live happily together, even when they are united by the bonds of race, color or religion. The task is much harder in the case of widely differing groups.

It is not strange, therefore, that frictions should have developed in this country and that some of them are serious. Unreasoning prejudices hold certain groups apart. In some quarters hatred is preached, discriminations are practiced, opportunity is denied. At times group strife imperils our national unity.

The most serious of the conflicts has to do with the so-called "Negro problem"—a problem which is not confined to any one part of the country, but which exists wherever Negroes live in considerable numbers. The Negroes feel that they are the victims of injustice and intolerance. Most of them do not deny the fact that they are better off than they were a number of years ago (see "Historical Backgrounds" on page 8), but they have certain grievances which they constantly stress. Among them are these:

Few colored children have as good an opportunity to obtain an education as white children have. Where there are separate schools for the two races, the Negro schools are usually inferior to those for white youths. In 17 states where there are separate schools, the average amount spent per year for each white student is about \$104; for each Negro student, \$57. As a rule, the teachers in Negro schools are not so well paid as teachers in white schools, and school equipment for colored students is inferior.

Not Prepared

Since most Negroes do not have the benefit of a good education, they are not prepared to do highly skilled work. They are obliged to take poorly paid positions and this condemns them to poverty. Even the competent and well-trained Negroes are frequently placed at a disadvantage in obtaining work because of racial discrimination. Many employers refuse to hire Negroes except for jobs which are considered menial and which pay low wages.

Living as they do under the double handicap of insufficient schooling and of discrimination, a large proportion of the colored people are extremely poor and poverty accounts for many of their problems. They suffer from lack of food and bad housing conditions. They do not have enough money to pay for adequate medical services.

Ill health is one of the results. The death rate among Negro babies during their first year, according to *Survey Graphic*, is one and a half times greater than that among white babies. Three times as many Negro men and four times as many Negro women in proportion to the population die from tuberculosis as do whites. A newborn white boy may expect to live 65 years, while a Negro boy may expect to live only 57 years.

Some white people say that the troubles of the Negroes result, not from the disadvantages under which they live, but from their own backwardness and lack of ability. The Negroes reply that the way to find out whether this is true would be to remove their disadvantages and see to it that their children have schooling as good as that which white children

have. It would then be possible, they say, to see how the Negroes get along under conditions of equal opportunity.

An important point at issue in the relations between white and colored people is the question of segregation. In some parts of the country, Negro children are required to go to separate schools. Negroes are not allowed to ride in railway coaches occupied by whites. They must sit separately on street cars, and in every possible way they are kept apart from the whites.

Many white people insist that such segregation is necessary in order to prevent even more race conflicts than now occur. Many Negroes look upon

are made more difficult by the actions of stubborn individuals on both sides. Certain members of each group go out of their way to stir up trouble and discord. They are too blinded by prejudice to work constructively in the search for wise, just, and harmonious solutions of their problems.

While the most serious of our group strife is concerned with the Negro, another source of friction is between Jews and Gentiles. There are in the United States approximately 5 million Jews, which means that only about one American in 30 is Jewish.

Unquestionably, there is discrimination toward Jews in certain quarters. There are firms which refuse to em-

So are all but a relatively small number of American newspapers and magazines. Although Jews have been outstanding pioneers and leaders in the movie industry, control of this industry is about evenly divided between them and Gentiles. In most industries, the Jews do not have a disproportionate share of control.

The Gentiles, of course, are not responsible for all the friction between themselves and the Jews. There are some Jewish firms which show favoritism toward their own people. Jews are more frequent victims of discrimination, however, than Gentiles are.

In some places there is prejudice against so-called "foreigners"; that is, Americans who were born in other countries or whose parents are foreign born. The absurdity and injustice of such discriminations are obvious when we remember that the Indians are the only native Americans and that all the rest of us are "outsiders."

The friction among religious groups is not so pronounced as that which prevails among certain other groups, but serious disharmony exists in some sections. In certain cities, where Protestants are in a majority, Catholics are not given their fair share of public jobs and are treated unjustly in various ways. In other cities, where Catholics are in a majority, the reverse situation exists. When such injustices occur, there is friction along religious lines.

Secret Organizations

There are anti-Catholic, as well as anti-Jewish and anti-Negro organizations, some of which conduct their operations in secret. These organizations undertake to stir up fear and hatred. Their purpose is to deprive certain groups of their rightful privileges as Americans.

It does little good to study the conflicts in American life, however, unless something is done about them. Fortunately, there is a great deal which any citizen can do to promote justice, harmony, and good will among people of all races, nationalities, and creeds. Among the steps which any American, young or old, may take are these:

1. "First of all," says Professor Clyde R. Miller, of Columbia University, "you must realize that racial and religious hatred is just another of the mental and emotional diseases which today are sweeping the world as plagues and pestilences once swept the world before science and education controlled them."

You will be taking an important step forward when you come to realize that what you think of as your opinions of certain racial or religious groups may be mere prejudices. Many of us, early in our lives, formed prejudices toward certain ideas and groups, and we do not even realize that our opinions are without any foundation of truth or fact.

2. If some of the people of your community are unpopular because of race, nationality, or religion, read as much as you can about these groups, study the contributions they have made to our civilization or welfare, and try to find out whether the criticisms against them are justified.

3. Try at all times to understand the other fellow's point of view. If a question concerning Jews comes up,



"WHAT a wonderful world this would be . . ."

segregation as a badge of inferiority, of a caste system which should be abolished altogether; while others are willing to accept segregation provided they are given equipment and accommodations equal to those enjoyed by the whites.

Political issues also embitter the race relations. In certain states it is practically impossible for Negroes to vote. Different devices are used to prevent their doing so.

It is argued by some white people that, if the Negroes were allowed to vote everywhere, they would have a majority in a number of communities and thus all the people in these places would be obliged to live under Negro rule. Colored leaders reply that if majority rule applies to one race it should apply to all of them. As it is now, they contend, all Negroes live under white rule.

Efforts to improve the living conditions and general position of Negroes

ploy them. There are hotels which will not admit them, and residential districts in which they are not permitted to live.

Even more serious than these discriminations is the whispering campaign for the purpose of arousing prejudice against Jews. There are anti-Semitic organizations which constantly carry on a campaign against Jews, similar in character to the movement promoted by the Nazis in Germany. These organizations try to induce people not to employ Jews or to buy goods from Jewish merchants. They foster hatred and fear.

It is frequently claimed that the Jews are getting control of our industries, of the government, and of agencies which influence public opinion. An examination of the facts proves the falsity of this charge.

Surveys show that most of the big banking houses of New York and other cities are in non-Jewish hands.

and if you are not a Jew, talk the problem over with a Jewish friend or member of the community. If you are a Jew, you should talk things over with people who are not. Members of other groups should follow this same procedure.

If you are a member of a minority group and are discriminated against in any way, see to it that, so far as possible, your own conduct is above criticism. Be careful not to give unnecessary offense. Be a worthy representative of your group.

4. Find out about organizations which are working for justice and for harmony among the various groups of our population. There are a number of national organizations, and there are no doubt local groups in your community. Find out what they are doing and cooperate with them. Get any material which they may publish.

5. Refrain at all times from calling any persons by names which are used as terms of reproach. Some people may not realize, when they use such terms as "chink," "wop," "kike," and "nigger," how it hurts and angers those to whom they refer. There is positively no sense in one's saying anything which might conceivably hurt the feelings of other people.

6. When you hear people making slurring remarks about any of our fellow Americans, speak out against the practice. Condemn every attempt to stir up prejudice. Let it definitely be known that you are on the other side.

7. Study the meaning of democracy. Does the acceptance of democracy mean that every individual is to be judged according to his merits? Does it mean that all the people shall have opportunity, or only the people of certain races, nationalities, or creeds? Is it in accordance with American ideals for certain classes of the population to be denied opportunity, or would such a denial be more in place in certain other countries which do not claim to be democratic? Make up your mind what American ideals are and then work continuously to sustain and promote them.



8. In all your dealings with other people regardless of their race, nationality, and creed, practice the Golden Rule. Treat each individual whom you meet as you

would want him to treat you or the members of your family if your situations were reversed.

The Reverend Harry Emerson Fosdick makes certain comments which we would like to pass on in concluding this article. He starts out with a quotation:

"'Brotherhood,' says the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 'is giving to others the rights and respect that we want for ourselves.' That is the indispensable quality of all people who are fit to live with—and being fit to live with is the desperate need of the modern world. It always has been man's crucial need in families, neighborhoods, tribes and nations, but within the last few generations, with distance conquered and intercommunication expanded, all mankind has been poured into one receptacle, until what happens anywhere happens everywhere. . . . We humans have got to live together—that is the big MUST of mankind from now on."



EXPERIMENTS have shown that pilots get less tired when they fly in this position than they do when seated in the normal way

Science in the News

THE Navy's new airship—the *Constitution*—recently flew from California to the National Airport in Washington, D. C., in 9½ hours with 90 people on board. This is the fastest speed at which so many people have ever been carried across the continent in a single plane.

The *Constitution* is big enough to hold a box car, a flat car, a Pullman car, and a bus. The interior more nearly resembles a movie theater or a huge yacht than a passenger plane. The upper deck seats 92 passengers while a lower deck will accommodate almost the same number of people, or a huge amount of cargo. The great airplane flies at an average speed of 269 miles per hour.

At about the same time the *Constitution* broke its record, the Air Force tested its newest 6-jet bomber plane—the B-47. Streaking across the skies at an average speed of 607 miles per hour, the B-47 crossed the continent in slightly less than four hours, establishing an official record as the world's fastest bomber.

Scientists have discovered a source of hidden wealth in the old pine stumps found in many Southern forests. Last year, more turpentine, oil, and rosin were extracted from these stumps than from living trees. Better ways of obtaining the substances, as well as new uses for these forest products, are being found all the time. Last year, for example, a new insecticide was made with turpentine as its most important ingredient.

New arctic clothing for soldiers is being tested by a group of Wacs on the slopes of New Hampshire's Mount Washington. Nylon jackets and trousers which are insulated with spun glass are proving warmer than the garb now worn by men in the arctic regions.

Laundries of the future may do their work with the help of an ultrasonic siren. In preliminary tests, clothes placed in soap and water and then treated with ultrasonic sound waves for a short time were cleaner and whiter than clothes washed many hours in an ordinary laundry.

The Bell Telephone Laboratories are designing better telephone booths for the future. The new booths will have ventilation from the ceiling, a better lighting system, writing shelves, and tough rubber floors.

The Rural Electrification Administration states that there are 400 different uses for electricity on the country's farms. Some jobs, such as putting grain into an overhead bin, may be done for a few cents each day by electric power. The same amount of work would keep a man busy for three days.

—By HAZEL LEWIS.

Your Vocabulary

In the sentences below match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are to be found on page 8, column 4.

1. His manner was *truculent* (truck'you-lent). (a) condescending (b) ferocious (c) sympathetic (d) unresponsive.
2. A *surreptitious* (sur'ep-tish-us) act is done: (a) secretly (b) halfheartedly (c) thoughtlessly (d) deliberately.
3. It was a *sapient* (sā'pī-ent) decision. (a) silly (b) unreliable (c) wise (d) faulty.
4. We grew tired of her endless *prattle* (prāt'l). (a) gossip (b) childish talk (c) arguments (d) objections.
5. The executive's *cupidity* (kū-pid'i-ti) was well known. (a) extreme selfishness (b) correctness (c) desire for power (d) desire for wealth.
6. A *meteorologist* (mē'tē-or-ō-lō-jist) is an expert on: (a) meteors (b) weather (c) minerals (d) stars.
7. The child was very *diffident* (dif'i-dent). (a) hard to handle (b) unforgiving (c) shy (d) lively.
8. He was a *pusillanimous* (pū'sī-lan'i-mus) person. (a) clumsy (b) wealthy (c) stingy (d) cowardly.

Pronunciations

Bologna—buh-lōn'yuh
Alcide de Gasperi—ahl-che'dē dē gah'-spē-rē
Palmiro Togliatti—pahl-mē'raw taw-lyah'tē (y as in yes)

Readers Say—

I believe that we should send as much aid to Latin America as we are now sending to Europe under the Marshall Plan. After all, the Latin American nations were our allies during World War II and they deserve as much consideration as the countries of Europe. If we do not make serious efforts to buy their products and lend them some money, they may become so hostile to us as to lean toward Russia. This would be harmful to the United States and the cause of freedom.

GENE HALSEY,
Preston, Minnesota

In my opinion, the federal government should give more than 300 million dollars for aid to education. That specific sum is the amount being requested in several bills now before Congress, but I think it is too small. If we wish to have a really strong nation, we must spend much more than that amount on our school system.

JIMMY HIGHFILL,
Doniphan, Missouri

I do not think we should increase the number of displaced persons allowed to come to this country. In the first place, they would cause many sections of our country to become quite overcrowded. In the second place, why must the United States always be asked to do the most for other people? I think we should help the refugees as much as we can, but they should remain where they are.

ARLENE V. SMITH,
Fort Plain, New York

We disagree with James W. Hall, who states that the displaced persons in Europe do not seem to be suffering as much as it is said they are. We suggest that Mr. Hall look into the matter a little further before he makes such a serious charge against the unfortunate refugees. Furthermore, we doubt whether he would really like to change places with any of the DP's who appear to him to be so content.

CLARINE THOMPSON,
JACQUELINE ZEBARTH,
Canton, South Dakota

I believe that the nation owes a great deal to General George C. Marshall, who recently resigned as Secretary of State. He guided our foreign policy at a crucial time and gave the whole world an enlightened leadership. Our country would be much better off if it had more men like him.

CHARLOTTE EILAND,
Opp, Oklahoma

It is my opinion that there should be more women than there are now in both the House and in the Senate. Some people say that there should be as many women as men legislators, but I do not go that far. I just think that as many women as possible should try to win public office. Who knows, some day a woman may run for the Presidency and get it.

SELMA REIFSCHNEIDER,
Lincoln, Nebraska

In a recent issue, Bob Mack said he was in favor of price controls as a method of checking inflation. I disagree. In my opinion, price controls would only cause a black market to appear.

RAY SCHNEIDER,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

(Address your letters to Readers Say, THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.)



Careers for Tomorrow - - In Accounting

YOUNG men and women who like to work with figures—those who enjoy studying a financial statement or keeping books for a club—may find profitable careers in the field of accounting. While long experience and hard work are necessary before one can reach the top of this profession, once a person has become established, he or she may expect to find steady employment at a fairly high salary.

Accountants work almost entirely with financial statements, but their duties vary and depend in large measure upon the special field of accounting that they enter. General accountants, for instance, keep the financial records of business firms. They prepare periodic financial statements and furnish a firm's executives with special information about its income and expenses from time to time.

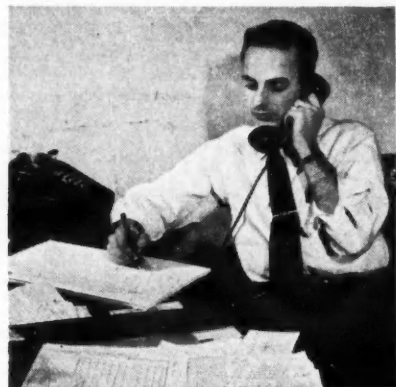
Cost accountants study a business's operations and set up records to determine the costs of operation. This kind of accountant is not concerned so much with over-all expenses. He tries to figure out what part of the entire cost must be assigned to each item that the firm manufactures or sells.

Auditors are a group of accountants who examine the financial records of business firms, government agencies, and other organizations. They check to see that no errors have been made and that no false entries have been put into the books.

Tax accountants specialize in matters relating to federal, state, and local tax laws. They may set up records that will make it relatively easy for a firm to prepare its tax returns, or they may render other

kinds of services to businesses or to individuals in connection with their many tax problems.

Most accountants are employed by business firms of one kind or another or by government agencies. They do work for only one of these organizations and are known as private accountants. Other persons in the field are known as public accountants. They set up offices much as doctors or lawyers do, and have many small



AN ACCOUNTANT must have a head for figures and a lively imagination

businesses and individuals as their clients.

To enjoy work in this field a person must have a "head for figures." Accountants must be accurate, but beyond that they must be able to take long lists of figures—study them, detect errors, draw conclusions from them, and use the material in numerous ways.

In the past, accountants did not need a college education. Many started as clerks or bookkeepers after they

finished high school and advanced to top positions in the profession. A college degree is now almost essential, though, and almost all business firms require that their accountants have advanced training in the work.

In high school, a prospective accountant should study mathematics, bookkeeping, economics, English, and the operation of business machines. In college, one will study such subjects as: auditing principles and practice, office methods, law, accounting systems and methods, and the analysis and interpretation of financial statements.

Most accountants hope to become CPAs—Certified Public Accountants. To do this they must pass strict examinations given by state boards and they must have had a certain number of years' experience in the field. One need not have had formal training in the subject in order to take these examinations, but most Certified Accountants are college graduates. Requirements in each state can be obtained from the State Board of Accountancy in the state capital.

Beginners in the accountancy field will probably make from \$35 to \$50 a week. Average salaries for experienced accountants vary from \$75 to \$90 a week, and many accountants have incomes that range upward from \$5,000 a year. CPAs have higher earnings than do other accountants. Studies have shown that CPAs often have higher incomes than do people in many other professions.

Further information on accounting can be secured from the American Institute of Accountants, 13 E. 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

Study Guide

Brotherhood Week

1. What is the purpose of National Brotherhood Week?
2. In states where separate schools are maintained for Negro and white students, roughly compare the expenditures per pupil in each group.
3. It is sometimes said that the poverty of Negroes results from their lack of ability rather than from disadvantages under which they live. How do Negroes reply to this charge?
4. What are some of the discriminations practiced against Jews?
5. How do frictions develop in some places between Protestants and Catholics?
6. Name one other type of group friction in this country.

Discussion

1. What does the term "democracy" mean to you as applied to equality of opportunity for the various groups of the population?
2. What do you think a student can do to help remove racial, religious, and nationality frictions, and to promote justice and fair play?

Norway

1. How have the Norwegians displayed their courage in recent years?
2. What has Norway done to prepare itself for the possibility of war?
3. Why is that country more interested in allying itself with the Western powers than with the East?
4. What is the "do without" program that was established by the Norwegian government at the end of World War II?
5. Why must the Norwegian people export large quantities of goods? What are some of their exports?
6. How might Norway's coast play a vital role in case of another war?
7. What is the importance of Spitzbergen?

Discussion

If you were a Norwegian, do you or do you not think you would want your country to join the North Atlantic military alliance? Give reasons for your answer.

Miscellaneous

1. In what country have several "Boys' Towns" been established in the past few years?
2. What is the purpose of the visit to this country of some 500 British workers?
3. Where do American publishers get the greatest part of their newsprint?
4. In the opinion of newspaperman Theodore White, what steps must France take to solve her trading problem?
5. Why does the Atomic Energy Commission have its own defense force?

References

- "The Negro Since 1900," by W. E. B. DuBois, *New York Times Magazine*, November 21, 1948. A study of the progress made by the Negroes of America since the beginning of the century. A description, also, of the problems they still face.
- "A Challenge to Bigotry," *Collier's*, February 19, 1949. Editorials by a well-known Protestant, Catholic, and Jew on the need for greater understanding among the religious faiths.
- "America's Leading Negro University," by Henry F. and Katharine Pringle, *Saturday Evening Post*, February 19, 1949. A description of Howard University, of Washington, D. C.
- "Political and Economic Conditions in the Scandinavian Countries," by Eric C. Bellquist, *Foreign Policy Reports*, May 15, 1948. Special section devoted to conditions in Norway.
- "Country Unafraid," by Quentin Reynolds, *Collier's*, November 6, 1948. The author says that the Norwegian people are prepared to fight for their independence.

Answers to Vocabulary Test

1. (b) ferocious; 2. (a) secretly; 3. (c) wise; 4. (b) childish talk; 5. (d) desire for wealth; 6. (b) weather; 7. (c) shy; 8. (d) cowardly.

Historical Backgrounds - - The American Negro

W E. B. DUBOIS, who has worked many years with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, recently pointed out in a *New York Times* article a number of gains that have been made by the members of his race. The information which he presents should be of interest to both white people and Negroes, particularly during Brotherhood Week. We shall digest and quote some of the facts and opinions contained in his article:

In 1900, a Negro boy baby at birth had a life expectation of 32 years; today, this has increased to 57.

In 1870, 90 per cent of all Negroes were illiterate; now less than 20 per cent are.

In 1910, only 45 per cent of all Negroes 5 to 20 years of age were in school; in 1940, 64 per cent of such youths were in school.

In 1910, not more than 5,000 Negroes were in college; today more than 38,000 are attending college.

Forty years ago, only 324 Negroes received the Bachelor's degree; last year, 5,635 earned this scholastic reward.

"In the first edition of 'Who's Who in America,' there was not, so far as I can ascertain, the name of a single American of Negro descent. The fiftieth edition, in 1948, contains the names of 91 Negroes, and in 'American Men of Science' 77 Negroes are listed.

"Advancement has been made in political activity. From 1900 to the First World War the mass of American Negroes, except in northern cities, had almost stopped voting. Today not only do more than 2,500,000 Negroes in the North and West vote, but in 1947 more than 600,000 Negroes were registered voters in 12 southern states.

"More and more Negroes are becoming judges and members of state legislatures, and there are two Negro members of the U. S. Congress.

"The most barbarous expression of race hate, lynching, has notably decreased. In 1900 an average of two

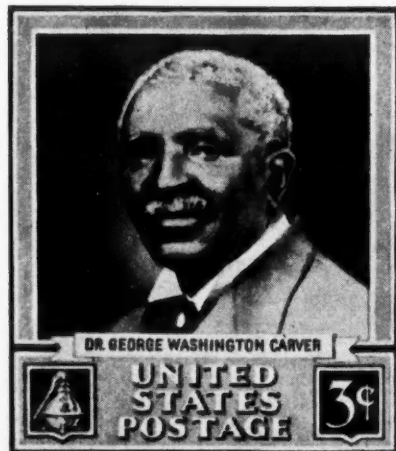
Negroes each week were lynched by mobs without trial. In 1947 only one lynching was reported for the entire year."

The old idea that the Negroes or any other people are an "inferior race" is gradually changing. "There is today scarcely a single field of American culture in which some Negro is not outstanding."

After pointing out all these signs of progress, Mr. DuBois contends that the 13 million American Negroes (1940 census) still have a long way to go before they have opportunities equal to those of white people. He says:

"Let no one assume from this record of accomplishment that the American Negro has secured or is about to secure his full rights as an American citizen. Least of all are Negroes themselves satisfied or overoptimistic. The record of progress is impressive not so much because of absolute advance as by comparison with the semi-slavery that marked the condition of Negroes in 1900."

The "Seeing Eye," an organization that trains dogs for blind people, celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. It is a private group that receives most of its finances in the form of gifts from the public. It spends about one thousand dollars on training each dog but then sells the animals for only \$150 apiece.



GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER, honored by this commemorative U. S. postage stamp, was an outstanding Negro scientist.